



# MEDI-CAL COUNTY PROGRAM MONTHLY AVERAGES FISCAL YEAR 1997-98

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## **ABSTRACT**

Summary of average monthly Medi-Cal program data, eligibles as a percent of the county population, rates of users per 100 eligibles, and cost per user for each county.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Utilization and provider payments for Medi-Cal services vary from county to county. This report updates prior reports and offers county data for Fiscal Year 1997-98.

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## **HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Table 1**

Statewide, an average of 5,016,520 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month of Fiscal Year (FY) 1997-98.

In FY 1997-98, the Medi-Cal population reflected 15.1 percent of California's total population.

The percentage of the population eligible for Medi-Cal varies sharply from county to county. In Yuba County, 28.9 percent of the population was eligible while in Marin County, only 5.1 percent was eligible.

In most of the counties (44 of the 58), at least one person out of ten was eligible for Medi-Cal during FY 1997-98.

In Los Angeles County, 1,721,827 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month. This was 17.9 percent of the county's population. Los Angeles County accounted for 34.3 percent of the Statewide Medi-Cal population.

Over half of the total Medi-Cal population was located in only four counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and San Diego.

### **Table 2**

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.

Statewide, the percentage of persons who were eligible for regular Medi-Cal who actually used a covered service averaged 51.0 percent in FY 1996-97.

Forty-Nine California counties had user rates of 41.5 percent or more in FY 1997-98.

Alpine County whose eligible population averaged 242 persons per month, had the lowest user rate, 33.1 percent.

Statewide, the average cost per user was \$408.44. Sonoma County's cost per user of \$796.18 was the highest and the lowest cost per user was Merced County's \$254.53.

In nine counties, the cost per user rates ran 25 percent or more below the Statewide average. Four counties had rates 25 percent or more above the Statewide average.

Various factors may influence the average cost per user in a county. One factor is the relative proportion of users receiving the more costly services, such as state hospital services, acute care hospital inpatient services, or long-term care.

### **DATA QUALIFICATIONS**

Figures in this report do not represent the official budget figures for medical and related expenditures.

Expenditures in this report represent cash flow payments for medical care. Included are provider payments made through Delta Dental, state hospitals, and the major fiscal intermediary, Electronic Data Systems.

Excluded from this report are Medi-Cal payments for Early Periodic Screening, Short Doyle/Medi-Cal, Medicare Buy-In, per capita payments for managed care plan coverage, audit recovery monies, refunds and administrative expenses.

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) are Medi-Cal pilot projects that are prepaid on a capitated at-risk basis. The first COHS went into effect June 1, 1983 in Monterey County and remained in effect through February 1985. A second was effective September 1, 1983 in Santa Barbara County. The Health Plan of San Mateo was effective December 1, 1987. The Partnership HealthPlan - Solano County was effective May 1, 1994 (formerly the Solano Partnership Health Plan). Orange County Organized Health System (CalOPTIMA) was effective October 1, 1995. Santa Cruz County Health Options was effective January 1, 1996. The Partnership Health Plan - Napa County was effective March 1, 1998.

Authorization and payment for most health care services are handled by the COHS for all Medi-Cal eligibles in the respective county. Certain services continue to be handled by other agencies, including dental services which are handled by Delta Dental (DD) for all counties. The Statewide COHS enrollment averaged 363,370 persons per month during FY 1997-98.

It should be noted that utilization and cost data for Medi-Cal Health Care Plan (HCP) enrollees are not available and are excluded in Table 2. The Statewide HCP enrollment averaged 1,082,858 persons per month during FY 1997-98.

A Geographic Managed Care (GMC) pilot project began April 1, 1994. Utilization and payment data reported in Table 2 for Sacramento County reflect only claims processed through the State's fiscal intermediaries (EDS and DD) and claims for state hospital services.

The lower figures for eligibles reported in Table 2 as compared to Table 1 reflect the exclusion of Managed Care Plans. The six COHS counties are excluded entirely.

TABLE 1  
COUNTY POPULATION, MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES  
AND MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES AS A PERCENT OF THE POPULATION  
FISCAL YEAR 1997-98

COUNTY	JANUARY 1, 1998 POPULATION	MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES/1/ (INCLUDING MANAGED CARE PLANS)	ELIGIBLES PER 100 POPULATION
STATEWIDE	33,252,000	5,016,520	15.1
Alameda	1,408,100	186,362	13.2
Alpine	1,200	227	18.9
Amador	33,700	2,608	7.7
Butte	201,600	42,227	20.9
Calaveras	38,350	5,194	13.5
Colusa	18,550	3,618	19.5
Contra Costa	900,700	87,721	9.7
Del Norte	28,900	6,686	23.1
El Dorado	147,600	11,910	8.1
Fresno	786,800	200,392	25.5
Glenn	26,950	5,414	20.1
Humboldt	127,700	23,377	18.3
Imperial	142,100	38,762	27.3
Inyo	18,500	2,838	15.3
Kern	639,800	143,854	22.5
Kings	122,800	23,592	19.2
Lake	55,100	13,087	23.8
Lassen	34,150	4,751	13.9
Los Angeles	9,603,300	1,721,827	17.9
Madera	114,300	27,677	24.2
Marin	245,900	12,472	5.1
Mariposa	16,150	2,250	13.9
Mendocino	86,900	16,860	19.4
Merced	204,400	57,942	28.3
Modoc	10,150	2,286	22.5
Mono	10,600	785	7.4
Monterey	386,200	52,207	13.5
Napa	123,300	10,231	8.3
Nevada	88,800	7,040	7.9
Orange	2,722,300	251,506	9.2
Placer	217,900	16,430	7.5
Plumas	20,600	2,745	13.3
Riverside	1,441,200	200,487	13.9
Sacramento	1,159,800	234,082	20.2
San Benito	46,600	5,658	12.1
San Bernardino	1,621,900	289,544	17.9
San Diego	2,794,800	315,104	11.3
San Francisco	789,600	108,865	13.8
San Joaquin	545,200	118,661	21.8
San Luis Obispo	239,000	22,219	9.3
San Mateo	715,400	47,572	6.6
Santa Barbara	405,500	44,492	11.0
Santa Clara	1,689,900	160,165	9.5
Santa Cruz	250,200	25,101	10.0
Shasta	165,000	34,597	21.0
Sierra	3,360	377	11.2
Siskiyou	44,700	8,910	19.9
Solano	383,600	45,412	11.8
Sonoma	437,100	37,429	8.6
Stanislaus	427,600	89,024	20.8
Sutter	76,800	13,728	17.9
Tehama	55,400	11,245	20.3
Trinity	13,250	2,437	18.4
Tulare	360,400	98,646	27.4
Tuolumne	52,800	6,696	12.7
Ventura	730,800	70,142	9.6
Yolo	156,800	23,337	14.9
Yuba	61,400	17,717	28.9

1/1 Average Monthly Eligibles.

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service and Managed Care Plans.

Figures are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

State: State of California, Department of Finance, Population of California Counties, May 1998.

State of California, Department of Health Services, MEDSSUM File, October 1998.

**TABLE 2**  
**MEDI-CAL PROGRAM**  
**AVERAGE MONTHLY ELIGIBLES, USERS, PROVIDER PAYMENTS,**  
**USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES, AND COST PER USER BY COUNTY**  
**FISCAL YEAR 1997-98**

COUNTY	AVERAGE MONTHLY ELIGIBLES/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY USERS/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY PROVIDER PAYMENTS/1/	USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES/1/	COST PER USER/1/
TOTAL	3,780,279	1,929,060	\$787,900,816	51.0	\$ 408.44
Alameda	111,302	64,125	31,983,584	57.6	498.77
Alpine	242	80	25,267	33.1	315.84
Amador	2,588	1,516	577,570	58.6	380.98
Butte	43,012	23,531	7,587,927	54.7	322.47
Calaveras	5,185	2,871	813,365	55.4	283.30
Colusa	3,587	1,912	549,301	53.3	287.29
Contra Costa	69,178	29,718	13,137,782	43.0	442.08
Del Norte	6,791	3,693	1,098,408	54.4	297.43
El Dorado	12,695	6,050	2,080,965	47.7	343.96
Fresno	168,352	63,955	22,157,701	38.0	346.46
Glenn	5,588	2,829	917,101	50.6	324.18
Humboldt	23,453	14,052	4,700,273	59.9	334.49
Imperial	39,767	20,203	5,749,935	50.8	284.61
Inyo	2,892	1,512	600,199	52.3	396.96
Kern	92,814	43,186	16,080,049	46.5	372.34
Kings	25,211	12,893	3,788,477	51.1	293.84
Lake	13,455	7,502	2,544,905	55.8	339.23
Lassen	4,926	2,611	876,144	53.0	335.56
Los Angeles	1,397,418	751,532	312,646,851	53.8	416.01
Madera	28,349	14,279	3,984,539	50.4	279.05
Marin	12,893	7,395	3,307,718	57.4	447.29
Mariposa	2,237	1,267	430,715	56.6	339.95
Mendocino	17,476	9,596	3,219,415	54.9	335.50
Merced	63,247	28,065	7,143,302	44.4	254.53
Modoc	2,457	1,292	548,343	52.6	424.41
Mono	800	358	116,253	44.8	324.73
Monterey	54,339	25,513	9,683,950	47.0	379.57
Nevada	7,554	4,404	1,697,684	58.3	385.49
Placer	17,641	9,028	3,770,151	51.2	417.61
Plumas	2,931	1,637	781,345	55.9	477.30
Riverside	161,811	78,893	31,258,061	48.8	396.21
Sacramento/2/	107,527	56,692	22,798,816	52.7	402.15
San Benito	5,980	2,918	974,027	48.8	333.80
San Bernardino	228,822	109,681	43,419,837	47.9	395.87
San Diego	255,995	136,998	55,306,999	53.5	403.71
San Francisco	93,993	53,946	29,249,470	57.4	542.20
San Joaquin	69,494	38,567	14,185,324	55.5	367.81
San Luis Obispo	23,616	12,939	4,503,863	54.8	348.08
Santa Clara	149,306	60,019	33,787,195	40.2	562.94
Shasta	35,486	19,494	7,193,185	54.9	368.99
Sierra	421	252	195,700	59.9	776.59
Siskiyou	9,544	4,812	1,544,533	50.4	320.98
Sonoma	40,304	21,237	16,908,418	52.7	796.18
Stanislaus	93,223	35,339	12,478,951	37.9	353.12
Sutter	13,510	7,855	2,498,525	58.1	318.08
Tehama	11,565	6,205	1,992,347	53.7	321.09
Trinity	2,549	1,470	516,170	57.7	351.14
Tulare	104,591	51,999	20,945,561	49.7	402.81
Tuolumne	6,810	4,105	1,622,876	60.3	395.34
Ventura	75,089	37,521	14,199,716	50.0	378.45
Yolo	22,089	11,483	3,368,119	52.0	293.31
Yuba	19,077	8,960	2,531,548	47.0	282.54
Not Reported	0	11,072	3,822,353	0.0	345.23

/1/ County Organized Health Systems (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.  
Excludes Managed Care Plans.

/2/ Availability of data is limited for Sacramento County.

Most Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) eligibles are covered by Geographic Managed Care (GMC).

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service.

Averages are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Health Services, Month of Payment Index Files, Fiscal Year 1997-98, Cumulative Certified CID Eligibles, and HCP Status Code 1 Reports .